

Seasons End

Well that's another wildfowling season ended and I hope that like myself you've managed to bag a duck or goose on a morning or evening when a recipe of birds, weather, time and place combined has given you memories you will never forget. I've had a few highlights such as introducing some of our younger generation to the delights of sampling wildfowl cooked simply and presented without fuss, spectacular driven snipe on a local shoot, adventures on the western Isles game shooting, a left and right on pinkfoot, and the appearance of a cocker puppy bringing much excitement to a young family.



Bringing home Barra - my daughter and son-in-law's WCS.

It was also nice to get back to a local shoot close to home and find myself and friends shooting driven pheasants - at times in a snowy blizzard. Testing birds that sometimes proved too good for us. Quality days like these along with being in great company with keepers and beaters are always fondly remembered.

Salmon fishing plays a big part with some of us after the wildfowling season. Unfortunately, getting hold of an elusive springer provides a fair old challenge sometimes in near freezing conditions. Of course us wildfowlers are used to this - as I am writing this column winter is now truly biting with red alerts popping up all over the British Isles.



Returning a well recovered Salmon back into the river Tay

Pattern testing has been carried out by a few club members mainly centered on steel shot. I always feel this is a massive positive practice to carry out which at least provides renewed faith on what is actually happening out there at 25 or 30 meters. Adding this information together with your shot size and striking energy and you will find it is well worth doing.

Enjoy the close season and enjoy the spoils from your freezer.

JM Club Secretary